IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

M. Inoue et al.

: Art Unit:

Serial No.:

To Be Assigned

: Examiner:

Filed:

Herewith

FOR:

COMPONENT MOUNTER

AND MOUNTING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 9-12 as follows:

- 9. (Newly Added) A method of mounting components on a board, said method comprising the steps of:

 a) receiving mounting locations of where said components are intended to be mounted on said board,

 b) determining where solder for said components is situated on said board,
- c) determining where said components are to be mounted on said board based on steps a) and b); and
- d) mounting said components on said board based on step c).

 AP_I:MAT/8184US/PRELIMDOC